

## **Montana's 2014-2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) Timeline**

<b>Sept. 30, 2014</b>	The open-source testing platform was to be available to Measured Progress from the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) by this date.
<b>Oct. 1, 2014</b>	The Office of Public Instruction signed a five-year contract with Measured Progress Inc. for the administration of the SBAC assessment in English/language arts and math for grades 3-8 and 11. Measured Progress will use the open-source platform designed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium based on proprietary software from AIR.
<b>March 12, 2015</b>	Measured Progress informs the Office of Public Instruction that the SBAC test delivery system is not ready to begin testing. Measured Progress is still receiving bug fixes from AIR.
<b>March 13, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction and Measured Progress delayed opening of the SBAC testing window by one week.
<b>March 18, 2015</b>	Scheduled opening of the SBAC testing window.
<b>March 22, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction notified school leaders that the SBAC testing window would not open as scheduled March 25.
<b>March 25, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction notified school leaders that because of technical challenges, testing vendor Measured Progress was unable to open the SBAC assessment window as planned.
<b>March 26, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction notified school leaders that the SBAC testing window would open March 30. OPI also notified districts that the window had been extended through June 12.
<b>March 31, 2015</b>	Superintendent Denise Juneau submitted a federal waiver request from accountability determinations for 2014-2015.
<b>April 7, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction notified district Title I leaders that Superintendent Juneau had requested an "accountability pause" waiver from the U.S. Department of Education. This accountability pause would waive Adequate Yearly Progress determinations based on tests administered in the

2014-2015 school year. Instead, AYP would be determined based on SBAC participation, graduation rates and attendance rates.

<b>April 10, 2015</b>	Smarter Balanced notified the Office of Public Instruction it would receive a \$127,870 membership credit for a delay in delivering the interim test.
<b>April 14, 2015</b>	Service interruptions prevented some students from logging on to the SBAC test, and caused some students to be dropped during testing.
<b>April 15, 2015</b>	Superintendent Juneau gave districts the flexibility to choose whether to administer the SBAC after sustained technical challenges disrupted class instruction time in some schools.
<b>April 15, 2015</b>	Measured Progress released a statement acknowledging delays with administering the SBAC test and informing the public it was working “around the clock” to deliver the assessment to schools in Montana, Nevada and North Dakota.
<b>April 15, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction alerted districts that vendor Measured Progress was unable to deliver the SBAC assessment and recommended a pause in testing until April 17.
<b>April 20, 2015</b>	Superintendent Juneau thanked district superintendents and principals for their patience during the challenging rollout of the SBAC assessment and announced a reopening of the testing system.
<b>April 23, 2015</b>	Measured Progress released a statement apologizing for the delays and technical challenges students faced in taking the SBAC test, saying delivering the assessment on an open-source platform is “new and unprecedented, and there were bound to be some initial challenges.”
<b>April 27, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction alerted districts that vendor Measured Progress was having another isolated service outage, and that testing resumed within the same day.
<b>May 20, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction received a letter from the U.S. Department of Education waiving the accountability requirement tied to the SBAC under No

Child Left Behind. Montana, like many other states, have a one-year accountability pause granted by USED.

<b>June 4, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction notified school district leaders that Superintendent Juneau's accountability pause waiver request had been granted.
<b>June 12, 2015</b>	The SBAC testing window officially closed.
<b>June 14, 2015</b>	Smarter Balanced notified the Office of Public Instruction it would receive a \$247,726 credit for failure to deliver the open-source testing platform by the contract deadline.
<b>June 19, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction released SBAC participation data showing nearly 82 percent of Montana students took the assessment.
<b>July 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction is withholding payment to Measured Progress until the vendor fulfills its part of the contract by delivering student SBAC scores.
<b>July 6, 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction sent an email to district superintendents and principals after Washington, Oregon and Idaho released SBAC results to let school leaders know Montana doesn't yet have data to share.
<b>July 15, 2015</b>	SBAC test results were initially expected by July 15. Continued technical challenges have pushed a results release into late fall.
<b>September 2015</b>	The Office of Public Instruction planned to send individual student SBAC test results to parents in September. Continued technical challenges have pushed a results release into late fall.
<b>Fall 2015</b>	The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium is contracting with the Center for Assessment to study how technical challenges in delivering the 2014-2015 test may have impacted student performance. North Dakota and Nevada student data will also be analyzed.
<b>November 2015</b>	Estimated release of SBAC scores.